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end

said fresh plant or an edible part of said fresh plant before or after slicing or disrupting said fresh plant or said edible part, or during boiling said fresh plant or said edible part, said inhibitory agent (i) having an active-oxygen-eliminating activity, and (ii) comprising as an effective ingredient trehalose in an amount of at least 20 w/w% trehalose in a dry solid basis and optionally at least one member selected from the group consisting of pullulan and cyclodextrin.

Please amend claim 33 as follows:

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33. (Twice Amended) A method for inhibiting the decrease of naturally occurring active-oxygen-eliminating activity in a fresh plant wherein the decrease in said activity is associated with processing of said fresh plant or an edible part of said fresh plant, or when an edible part of the fresh plant is disrupted, which comprises a step of

homogeneously incorporating, in an aqueous system, at least 1% of an inhibitory agent based on said fresh plant or said edible part on a dry solid basis before or after slicing or disrupting said fresh plant or said edible part, or during boiling said fresh plant or edible part, said inhibitory agent having an oxygen-eliminating activity, comprising as an effective

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ingredient trehalose in an amount of at least about 20
w/w% trehalose on a dry solid basis and optionally at
least one member selected from the group consisting of
pullulan and cyclodextrin.